(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government have ascertained the conclusions of the said meeting; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes.

(b) Over the last few months, there has been an escalation in the activities of anti-Afghan Government elements, which includes the Taliban.

(c) Yes,

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Yes.

(f) At the London Conference, a five-year development strategy called Interim Afghanistan National Development Strategy was approved for implementation in accordance with the Afghanistan Compact agreed upon between the Afghan Government and the international community. The international donors announced new pledges of US $ 10.5 billion for the implementation of the strategy over the next five-year period. Government of India pledged an additional sum of US $ 50 million for the reconstruction of Afghanistan.

Committee for monitoring T.V. channels

2769. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have appointed a Committee for suggesting ways for monitoring television channels;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its recommendations;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the follow up action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (d) Government has constituted a Committee on 03.10.2005 to review the Programme Code and Advertising

Code prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder. This Committee cosists of representatives from film industry, music industry, broadcasting industry, concerned NGOs, experts and other stakeholders. The Committee is yet to submit its report.

Copy right violations

2770. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the rampant violation of copy rights of films by releasing fake and duplicate cassettes; and

(b) if so, the action taken to check the crime?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) According to information received from the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) the revenue loss from film piracy is about Rs.1200 crores annually.

(b) The Copyright Act, 1957, which falls under the purview of the Ministry of Human Resource Development contains, *inter alia*, legal provisions regarding copyright in cinematograph films and music. The responsibility for dealing with offences under the Copyright Act rests with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Copyright enforcements cells have been set up in most of the State/Union Territory Administrations. The Act is amended from time to time to keep it in consonance with International Copyright law. This Ministry has also made suggestions for restricting incidence of piracy in the film and music sector while considering the on going amendments to the Copyright Act. This Ministry has also received a proposal to enact an Optical Disc Law to counter piracy in the entertainment sector. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has been entrusted with the task of determining the need for a Separate legislation for manufacture of optical discs apart from this, Ministry of I&B has also taken measures like organizing training programmes for police personnel on copyright issues in the film sector, National Film Development Corporation Ltd. has been commissioned to produce an anti piracy campaign. A film against piracy has been made by Public Sevice Broadcast Trust on behalf of this Ministry and has been telecast on Doordarshan. Audio CDs were exempted from excise duty to do away the price advantage available to pirated CDs etc.